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EXAMINER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/970,647	FUKUOKA, HIROKI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kelly L. Jerabek	2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 January 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *17-74* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *17-74* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/19/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Response to Remarks:

Applicant's arguments regarding claims 17 and 46 (Amendment page 16) states that the Yamagami reference does not disclose or render obvious the claimed features of a processor configured to control a card through the second input/output interface and by executing a command program on the card received through the second input/output interface and by executing a command program received through the first input/output interface. The arguments further state that at most the Yamagami reference discloses controlling a card through a single interface, but does not disclose controlling a card through two interfaces. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Yamagami discloses in figures 1 and 7 a digital electronic camera system comprising a digital electronic camera (100) including a lens (1), and an electronic image pick-up sensor (6) for receiving images through the lens (col. 3, line 52 – col. 4, line 7; col. 20, lines 29-39; figs. 5-7). The electronic camera system also includes a first input/output interface (104) for interfacing a memory card (101) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col.

3, line 60 – col. 4, line 7) and a second input/output interface (110) for interfacing an extended card (111) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 4, lines 8-13). Yamagami states that second input/output interface (110) receives a card means (111) that stores a control program in a memory means (702) (col. 20, lines 29-67; figs. 5-7). The electronic camera system also includes a processor (CPU13) for controlling the card means (111) through the second input/output interface (110) (col. 7, line 50-col. 9, line 41), for connecting to the electronic image pick-up means (6), and for controlling the first input/output interface (104) (col. 3, line 60-col.4, line 7). **Yamagami further discloses in a fourth embodiment that a program of the BIOS level of the RISC CPU (701) of the card means (111) is written in the memory card (101) connected to the first input/output interface (104). Yamagami also states that the contents (programs) of the memory card (101) are transferred to the extended card (111) thorough the first input/output interface (104) (col. 20, lines 40-53). Thus, it can be seen that Yamagami discloses a processor means (CPU 13) for processing the control program from the card means (111) through the second input/output interface (110), and also controlling the card means (111) based on a command program received from the first input/output interface means (104).**

Applicant's arguments regarding claims 17 and 46 (Amendment page 17) states that the Ishikawa reference does not disclose or render obvious the claimed features of a processor configured to control a card through the second input/output interface and by executing a command program on the card received through the second input/output

interface and by executing a command program received through the first input/output interface. This argument is moot because the Yamagami reference provides the teaching of controlling the card means based on a command program received from the first input/output interface means as disclosed above. Therefore, the combination of the Yamagami and Ishikawa references discloses all of the limitations of independent claims 17 and 46.

Applicant's arguments (Amendment page 17) state that there is no motivation to combine the Yamagami and Ishikawa references. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. The Ishikawa reference is included in order to show that it is well known in the art to include a memory **in a camera** that is capable of storing received programs. Therefore, the Yamagami and Ishikawa references are being combined as follows.

Yamagami discloses in figures 1 and 7 a digital electronic camera system comprising a digital electronic camera (100) including a lens (1), and an electronic image pick-up sensor (6) for receiving images through the lens (col. 3, line 52 – col. 4, line 7; col. 20, lines 29-39; figs. 5-7). The electronic camera system also includes a first input/output interface (104) for interfacing a memory card (101) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 3, line 60 – col. 4, line 7) and a second input/output interface (110) for interfacing an extended card (111) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 4, lines 8-13). Yamagami states that second input/output interface (110) receives a card means (111) that stores a control program in a memory means (702) (col. 20, lines 29-67; figs. 5-7). The electronic camera system also includes a processor (CPU13) for controlling the

card means (111) through the second input/output interface (110) (col. 7, line 50-col. 9, line 41), for connecting to the electronic image pick-up means (6), and for controlling the first input/output interface (104) (col. 3, line 60-col.4, line 7). Yamagami further discloses in a fourth embodiment that a program of the BIOS level of the RISC CPU (701) of the card means (111) is written in the memory card (101) connected to the first input/output interface (104). Yamagami also states that the contents (programs) of the memory card (101) are transferred to the extended card (111) thorough the first input/output interface (104) (col. 20, lines 40-53). Thus, it can be seen that Yamagami discloses a processor means (CPU 13) for processing the control program from the card means (111) through the second input/output interface (110), and also controlling the card means (111) based on a command program received from the first input/output interface means (104). Although the Yamagami reference discloses the above limitations, it fails to distinctly disclose that a memory means **in the camera** receives a control program from a card and the processor in the camera processes the control program received from the card.

Ishikawa discloses in figures 2-4 a camera including a holder (5) for accepting an IC card (4) that stores a control program. The camera includes a memory (EPROM) for receiving the control program from the card (4) and a processor (MC) for processing the control program to control the card means and operate the camera in accordance with the received program (col. 4, lines 17-86; col. 6, line 4 – col. 8, line 55). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to have been motivated to include the method of storing a control program received from a card in an internal memory of a

camera as disclosed by Ishikawa in the electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami. **Doing so would provide a means for adding functions to the camera and altering functions corresponding to various needs by individual users (Ishikawa: col. 1, lines 65-68).**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 17-19, 22, 25-30, 31-40, 45-48, 51, 54-59, 60-69, and 74 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Yamagami et al. US 5,535,011 in view of Ishikawa et al. US 5,260,735.

Re claim 46, Yamagami discloses in figures 1 and 7 a digital electronic camera system comprising a digital electronic camera (100) including a lens (1), and an electronic image pick-up sensor (6) for receiving images through the lens (col. 3, line 52 – col. 4, line 7; col. 20, lines 29-39; figs. 5-7). The electronic camera system also includes a first input/output interface (104) for interfacing a memory card (101) to the

image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 3, line 60 – col. 4, line 7) and a second input/output interface (110) for interfacing an extended card (111) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 4, lines 8-13). Yamagami states that second input/output interface (110) receives a card means (111) that stores a control program in a memory means (702) (col. 20, lines 29-67; figs. 5-7). The electronic camera system also includes a processor (CPU13) for controlling the card means (111) through the second input/output interface (110) (col. 7, line 50-col. 9, line 41), for connecting to the electronic image pick-up means (6), and for controlling the first input/output interface (104) (col. 3, line 60-col.4, line 7). Yamagami further discloses in a fourth embodiment that a program of the BIOS level of the RISC CPU (701) of the card means (111) is written in the memory card (101) connected to the first input/output interface (104). Yamagami also states that the contents (programs) of the memory card (101) are transferred to the extended card (111) thorough the first input/output interface (104) (col. 20, lines 40-53). Thus, it can be seen that Yamagami discloses a processor means (CPU 13) for processing the control program from the card means (111) through the second input/output interface (110), and also controlling the card means (111) based on a command program received from the first input/output interface means (104). Although the Yamagami reference discloses the above limitations, it fails to distinctly disclose that a memory means in the camera receives a control program from a card and the processor in the camera processes the control program received from the card.

Ishikawa discloses in figures 2-4 a camera including a holder (5) for accepting an IC card (4) that stores a control program. The camera includes a memory (EPROM) for

receiving the control program from the card (4) and a processor (MC) for processing the control program to control the card means and operate the camera in accordance with the received program (col. 4, lines 17-86; col. 6, line 4 – col. 8, line 55). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to have been motivated to include the method of storing a control program received from a card in an internal memory of a camera as disclosed by Ishikawa in the electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami. Doing so would provide a means for adding functions to the camera and altering functions corresponding to various needs by individual users (Ishikawa: col. 1, lines 65-68).

Re claim 47, Yamagami states that the first input/output interface (104) interfaces a memory card (101) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 5, lines 11-27).

Re claim 48, Yamagami states that the memory card (101) conforms with the specifications of PCMCIA memory cards (col. 3, lines 60-64).

Re claim 51, Yamagami states that the second input/output interface (110) receives an extended card (111). The extended card (111) includes an external I/F controller (207) configured to communicate with a host computer (112) through an external interface (figs. 5-7). Therefore, the extended card (111) is being read as a

communication card for communicating information into and out of the digital image-capturing device.

Re claim 54, Yamagami states that the electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami includes a memory bus controller (102) for transfer of image and sound data between the processor (13) and an extended card (111) or a recording medium (101) (col. 4, lines –7). Therefore, the memory bus controller (102) serves as a common bus that is directly connected to both the first input/output means (104) and the second input/output means (110).

Re claim 55, Yamagami discloses an extended card (111) that connects to the second interface (110). The extended card (111) contains an input/output protocol controller (SCSI: 207) for controlling a communication protocol (col. 21, lines 7-17).

Re claim 56, Yamagami states that the extended card (111) also includes a program RAM (702) for storing a control program (col. 20, lines 40-67).

Re claim 57, Yamagami discloses an extended card (111) that inputs and outputs information. The extended card (111) also connects to the second interface (110). The extended card (111) contains an input/output protocol controller (SCSI: 207) that serves as a communication line (col. 21, lines 7-17).

Re claim 58, Yamagami also includes a video output part (23) (fig. 5; col. 4, lines 61-64). The connection between the camera and the video output part (23) serves as a communication line because it sends an analog video signal to be displayed at the video output part (23) and does so without connection to an input/output card.

Re claim 59, Yamagami discloses all of the limitations of claim 46 above. Additionally, Yamagami also includes a video output part (23) (col. 4, lines 61-64). The connection between the camera and the video output part (23) serves as a communication line because it sends an analog video signal to be displayed at the video output part (23) and does so without connection to an input/output card. However, Yamagami does not state that the display is a television. However, the examiner takes **Official Notice** that it is well known in the art for video information to be displayed on a television. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention for the digital electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami to display the analog video information on a television that is part of the video output part (23).

Re claim 60, Yamagami states that when an instruction is given for shooting and recording, the processor (13) controls the memory bus controller (102) to cause image data to be recorded on the recording medium (101) through the recording medium I/F interface (104) (col. 5, lines 10-27). Therefore, the memory bus controller (102) serves as a card interface circuit means connected between the processor (13) and the first

input/output interface (104) for interfacing to a device (101) that is external to the image-capturing device.

Re claim 61, Yamagami states that the memory bus controller (102) which serves as a card interface circuit means is also connected between the processor (13) and the second input/output interface (110) (col. 4, lines 1-7).

Re claims 62-65, Ishikawa discloses a camera including an interface (holder 5) for accepting an IC card (4) that stores a control program. The camera includes a memory (EPROM) for receiving the control program from the card (4) and a processor (MC) for processing the control program to control the card means and operate the camera in accordance with the received program (col. 4, lines 17-86; col. 6, line 4 – col. 8, line 55).

Re claim 66, Yamagami discloses a motion image compressing/expanding circuit (608) for carrying out a compressing or decompressing process in real time (col. 19, lines 30-49).

Re claim 67, Yamagami states that when sound data recorded on the recording medium (101) consists of compressed sound data, the sound data is expanded (col. 11, lines 28-49). Therefore, it can be seen that compressed sound data received from a memory card (101) connected to the first interface (104) is decompressed if necessary.

Re claim 68, Yamagami states that the electronic camera system is capable of controlling mechanical, operation, and operation display parts related to shooting in accordance with instructions given from the host computer (112) through an external bus (401). An instruction coming through the external bus (401) is sent to the operation part control CPU (4) and the instruction is carried out by the operation part control CPU (4) (col. 16, lines 47-67). Therefore, the operation part control CPU (4) can be read as a memory means for receiving a control program (data) from a source outside of the digital imaging capturing device since it receives instructions from an external host computer (112) and carries out the instructions. The data received from the external host computer (112) includes exposure controlling information (col. 16, lines 61-67).

Re claim 69, see claim 68.

Re claim 74, Yamagami states that the DSP (202) reads out the compressed image data from the recording medium (101) by controlling the recording medium interface (104) (col. 11, lines 10-27). Therefore, since the DSP (202) is a processor it can be read as a computer and it has a memory card reading means for reading the memory card (101) containing image captured from the digital image capturing device.

Re claim 17, see claim 46.

Re claim 18, see claim 47.

Re claim 19, see claim 48.

Re claim 22, see claim 51.

Re claim 25, see claim 54.

Re claim 26, see claim 55.

Re claim 27, see claim 56.

Re claim 28, see claim 57.

Re claim 29, see claim 58.

Re claim 30, see claim 59.

Re claim 31, see claim 60.

Re claim 32, see claim 61.

Re claim 33, see claim 62.

Re claim 34, see claim 63.

Re claim 35, see claim 64.

Re claim 36, see claim 65.

Re claim 37, see claim 66.

Re claim 38, see claim 67.

Re claim 39, see claim 68.

Re claim 40, see claim 69.

Re claim 45, see claim 74.

Claims 20-21 and 49-50 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami et al. in view of Ishikawa et al. and further in view of Silverbrook US 5,430,496.

Re claim 49, the combination of the Yamagami and Ishikawa references discloses all of the limitations of claims 18 and 47 above. Specifically, Yamagami states that the first input/output interface (104) interfaces a memory card (101) to the image pick-up sensor (6) (col. 5, lines 11-27). The memory card (101) conforms with the specifications of PCMCIA memory cards (col. 3, lines 60-64). However, Yamagami in view of Ishikawa fails to distinctly state that the first input/output interface is for receiving a memory card for storing information according to a JEIDA standard.

Silverbrook discloses a portable video animation device that includes a memory card (17) and a memory card reader (10). Silverbrook states that it is well known in the art for memory cards conform to both JEIDA and PCMCIA standards (col. 3, lines 51-62). Silverbrook also states that each memory card (17) can be used as ROM devices but can also be either flash EPROM or static RAM (col. 3, lines 59-62). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to have been motivated to include a memory card that conforms to both JEIDA and PCMCIA standards and can also be a flash EPROM to store images as disclosed by Silverbrook in the digital electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami in view of Ishikawa. Doing so would provide a means for storing images on a memory card conforming to both JEIDA and PCMCIA standards (Silverbrook: col. 3, lines 51-54).

Re claim 50, see claim 49.

Re claim 20, see claim 49.

Re claim 21, see claim 49.

Claims 23-24 and 52-53 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami et al. in view of Ishikawa et al. and further in view of Johnson US 5,809,068.

Re claim 52, the combination of the Yamagami and Ishikawa references discloses all of the limitations of claims 22 and 51 above. Specifically, Yamagami states that the second input/output interface (110) receives an extended card (111). The extended card (111) includes all of the limitations of claim 51. Additionally, Yamagami states that the extended card (111) conforms to the specifications of the PCMCIA standards (col. 4, lines 2-6). However, Yamagami in view of Ishikawa does not distinctly state that the extended card (111) is a modem card or a LAN card.

Johnson discloses in figure 1 a PCMCIA modem (10). Johnson states that PCMCIA standard cards have been adopted by a number of networking adapter and communications vendors as a way for users to add LAN or modem communications without having to carry bulky equipment (col. 1, lines 23-34). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to have been motivated to include the PCMCIA standard LAN and modem cards as disclosed by Johnson in the PCMCIA input/output interfaces (104) (110) of the digital electronic camera system disclosed by Yamagami in view of Ishikawa. Doing so would provide a means for allowing users to add LAN or

modem communications without having to carry bulky equipment (Johnson: col. Lines 26-29).

Re claim 53, see claim 52.

Re claim 23, see claim 52.

Re claim 24, see claim 52.

Claims 41-42 and 70-71 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami et al. in view of Ishikawa et al. and further in view of Sasaki et al. US 5,018,017.

Re claim 70, the combination of the Yamagami and Ishikawa references discloses all of the limitations of claims 17 and 46 above. Specifically, Yamagami states that image data is recorded on a PCMCIA memory card (101) via the first input/output interface (104) (col. 5, lines 11-27). However, Yamagami in view of Ishikawa fails to distinctly state that date information related to the captured image is also output to the memory card (101).

Sasaki discloses in figure 1 an electronic still camera (10) including a memory card (15) for storing images and information relating to the images. Figures 9A-9E explain a method of storing data into the memory card (15). Specifically, figure 9B

shows the various items stored in the directory area. This information can include date information related to the captured image (col. 9, lines 35-61). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to have been motivated to include the memory card capable of storing date information related to a captured image as disclosed by Sasaki in the digital electronic camera system including a memory card as disclosed by Yamagami in view of Ishikawa. Doing so would provide a means for storing information indicating the date that image recording was affected (Sasaki: col. 9, lines 55-61).

Re claim 71, see claim 70.

Re claim 41, see claim 70.

Re claim 42, see claim 70.

Claims 43-44 and 72-73 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami et al. in view of Ishikawa et al. and further in view of Crawford US 5,771,354.

Re claim 72, the combination of the Yamagami and Ishikawa references discloses all of the limitations of claims 17 and 46 above. Specifically, Yamagami states that image data that is recorded on the recording medium (101) is transferred to a host computer (112). The image data is transferred to the host computer (112) by an

external interface controller (207) located within an extended card (111) (col. 11, lines 50-67). Therefore, it can be seen that image data stored in the recording medium (101) is transferred through a first interface means (104) to a bus controller (102), then the image data is transferred from the bus controller (102) to a second interface means (110) and to a bus controller (206) and an external interface controller (207) located in a communication card (111). Thus, a captured image is outputted through a first and second interface means and a communication card to a host computer (112). However, Yamagami in view of Ishikawa does not state that the image data is sent to an Internet service provider.

Crawford discloses in figure 1 a computer (50) capable of connecting to an online Internet service provider (100). The online Internet service provider (100) provides various capabilities such as data storage to the customer computer (50) (col. 14, lines 17-35). Figure 2 shows in block 202 offsite archival services preformed by accessing virtual disk drives. Customer files from the customer computer (50) inactive for a specified period are automatically copied to online service disks for offsite archiving (col. 14, lines 45-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to include the offsite archival service performed by accessing virtual disk drives located at an online Internet service provider connected to a customer computer as disclosed by Crawford in the host computer capable of receiving image data as disclosed by Yamagami in view of Ishikawa. Doing so would provide a means of transferring files located at a customer computer to an online Internet service provider (Crawford: col. 14, lines 45-50).

Re claim 73, Crawford states that the Internet service provider may include America On-line (col. 2, lines 5-22).

Re claim 43, see claim 72.

Re claim 44, see claim 73.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contacts

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kelly L. Jerabek whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7312**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on **(571) 272-7593**. The fax phone number for submitting all Official communications is **(703) 872-9306**. The fax phone number for submitting informal communications such as drafts, proposed amendments, etc., may be faxed directly to the Examiner at **(571) 273-7312**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KLJ

DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER